

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ANKARA 03841 201455Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O R 201400Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2007
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION UNSATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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S E C R E T ANKARA 3841

EXDIS

MILITARY HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652 XGDS-1
TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, TU, CY
SUBJ: U.S.-TURKEY RELATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 127594 (NOTAL), (B) STATE 127596 (DTG
191601Z MAY 78), (C) STATE 127646 (DTG 191914Z
MAY 78), (C) STATE 127595 (NOTAL), (E) STATE
127756 (NOTAL)

1. CHARGE CALLED ON MFA SECRETARY GENERAL ELEKDAG AT HIS HOME, AFTERNOON MAY 20, TO CARRY OUT INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTELS. ELKDAG WAS ACCOMPANIED BY TULUMEN AND OZGUL; CHARGE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY POLITICAL COUNSELOR.
2. CHARGE OPENED BY STRESSING THE PRESIDENT'S STRONG PERSONAL ROLE IN THE EFFORT TO REPEAL THE EMBARGO, THE MOST RECENT EXAMPLE BEING THE WHITE HOUSE MEETING WITH TOP LEADERSHIP OF VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS. ELKDAG WAS EXTREMELY
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SECRET

PAGE 02 ANKARA 03841 201455Z

INTERESTED AND TOOK NOTES.

3. AFTER CHARGE READ - AT DICTATION SPEED - DEPARTMENT'S STATEMENT ON THE EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER ON THE NATO SUMMIT DECLARATION (PARA 2, REF B), ELEKDAG BRIDLED. HE COMMENTED THAT ECEVIT WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE EVIDENCE OF

ALLIED SOLIDARITY, BUT FINDS THAT TURKEY HAS BEEN LEFT HIGH AND DRY WITH ITS PROBLEMS. IT IS FOR THAT REASON THAT ECEVIT HAS MADE STATEMENTS THAT APPARENTLY HAVE NOT BEEN WELL RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON. CHARGE EXPLAINED THAT WE UNDERSTOOD THE PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION BUT WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE PROBLEM WE FACE IN CONVINCING CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PUBLIC THAT THE EMBARGO MUST BE LIFTED FOR THE SAKE OF THE ALLIANCE.

4. IN PRESENTING THE DRAFT STATEMENT ON CYPRUS (REF D), CHARGE POINTED OUT THAT IN SEVERAL RECENT CONGRESSIONAL BATTLES OVER FOREIGN POLICY THE OTHER GOVERNMENTS INVOLVED HAD ASSISTED THE ADMINISTRATION AT KEY MOMENTS. CHARGE NOTED THAT WE APPRECIATE ALL THE GOT HAS DONE SO FAR. HE REAFFIRMED OUR POLICY OF KEEPING U.S.-TURKISH RELATIONS SEPARATE FROM CYPRUS, OUR DESIRE TO REVITALIZE OUR RELATIONSHIP, AND OUR COMMITMENT TO WIN REPEAL OF THE EMBARGO. HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT, IT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT WE CAN WIN WITHOUT MORE HELP FROM TURKEY. HE CALLED PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO WHAT LEADING CONGRESSMEN HAD TOLD AMBASSADOR ESENBEL DURING THE SECRETARY'S BREAKFAST LAST WEEK. (ELEKDAG AT THIS POINT GOT OUT A LENGTHY REPORT OF THE BREAKFAST FROM ESENBEL AND REVIEWED IT.) CHARGE WENT ON TO URGE THAT THE GOT HAVE THE TURKISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON ISSUE THIS OR A SIMILAR STATEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE -- OR THAT THE GOT GIVE SOME OTHER DRAMATIC INDICATION OF SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ANKARA 03841 201455Z

FLEXIBILITY.

5. ELEKDAG READ THE DRAFT STATEMENT ALOUD OCCASIONALLY PAUSING TO PONDER A POINT. HE THEN MADE TWO COMMENTS: FIRST, THE STATEMENT SUGGESTS A "BACK TO LINKAGE" APPROACH; AND SECOND, ECEVIT MADE SEVERAL STATEMENTS DURING HIS VISITS TO BONN AND LONDON IN WHICH HE INDICATED FLEXIBILITY AND EXPANDED THE POSITION ON VAROSHA. ELEKDAG WENT ON TO REMARK, HOWEVER, THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO BELIEVE AN ADDITIONAL STATEMENT IS NEEDED. "WE'LL SEE WHAT WE CAN DO", HE CONCLUDED.

6. CHARGE GAVE ELEKDAG THE MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE PRIME MINISTER (REF A) AND FROM MRS. CARTER TO MRS. ECEVIT (REF E). ELEKDAG ALSO TOOK NOTE OF THE PROPOSAL FOR A BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER MAY 31, AND OF OUR HOPE THAT THE PRIME MINISTER CAN RETURN TO WASHINGTON FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH SENATORS AND CABINET LEVEL OFFICIALS JUNE 5.

7. ELEKDAG SAID THAT HE WOULD GET BACK TO US AS SOON AS

POSSIBLE WITH RESPONSES ON ALL THE SUBJECTS WE HAD RAISED.
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